

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RESPONSE TO STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE -and- RESPONSE TO INTERVIEW SUMMARY	Title: PROTOCOL SPECIFICATION FOR MESSAGE-INITIATED CONSTRAINT-BASED ROUTING	
	Inventor(s):	Thorsten H. Brants et al.
	Application No.:	10/626,856
	Filing Date:	July 25, 2003
	Confirmation No.	9802
	Examiner:	Kimberly M. Lovel
Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Art Unit:	2167
	Notice of Allowance:	May 13, 2009

Dear Sir:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication as to the allowance of the present application.

However, applicants respectfully submit the Statements of Reasons for Allowance are, in and of themselves, inappropriate. It is noted that the reasons for allowance may be set forth in instances in which " . . . the Examiner believes that the record of the prosecution as a whole does not make clear his or her reasons for allowing a claim or claims." (37 CFR §1.104(e)(2004)). In the present case, applicants believe the record as a whole does make the reasons for allowance clear and, therefore, no statement by the Examiner is necessary or warranted. Furthermore, the applicants do not necessarily agree with each statement in the reasons for allowance.

Specifically, it has been indicated that the claims are allowed by importing interpretations into the claims in relation to the prior art that results in a potential imprecise and/or inaccurate understanding of the reasons. This places an unwarranted interpretation upon the claims. Such a characterization of the claims does not properly take into account applicants' claimed invention as reflected in the specification and the applicants' responses to the Examiner's office actions.